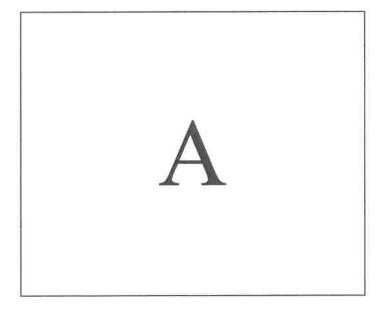
Exhibit



Case 2:21-cy-03043 Document 1-1, Filed 05/27/21 Page 2 of 13 Page D. 6609963/2020

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF SUFFOLK		Index No.:
		SUMMONS
JEAN GHOLSON,	Plaintiff,	Plaintiff designates Suffolk County as the place of trial.
-against-		The basis of venue is: Plaintiff's residence.
,	Defendant.	Plaintiff resides at: 58 Lincoln Avenue Wyandanch, New York 11798
		County of Suffolk

TO THE DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer or, if the complaint is not served with summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated: Mineola, New York July 28, 2020

SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCIK,

VIENER & GROSSMAN, P.C.

JOSEPH B. VIENER
Attorney for Plaintiff
JEAN GHOLSON
100 Herricks Road
Mincola, New York 11501

(516)741-5252 FILE #: SSBW-TRIP&F-65775

. WAI MADTING

TO: WALMART INC.

Via Secretary of State 28 Liberty Street New York, New York 1005

WALMART INC.

85 Crooked Hill Road Commack, New York 11725 FILED: SUFFOLK COUNTY CLERK 08/04/2020 09:55 AM

YSCEF DOC. NO. 1 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF SUFFOLK	Index No.:	
JEAN GHOLSON, Plaintiff,	VERIFIED COMPLAINT	
-against-	VERIFIED COMI LAINI	
WALMART INC.,		
Defendant.		
Plaintiff, by her attorneys, SANDERS, SANDERS,	BLOCK, WOYCIK, VIENER &	
GROSSMAN, P.C., complaining of the defendant above-name	ed, respectfully alleges as follows:	
AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF	ACTION	

 That at all the times hereinafter mentioned, plaintiff was and still is a resident of the County of Suffolk and State of New York.

ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFF: JEAN GHOLSON

- 2. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, WALMART INC., was and still is a domestic corporation organized and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
- Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant,
 WALMART INC., was and still is a foreign corporation duly authorized to do business in the State
 of New York.
- 4. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, WALMART INC., was and still is a limited liability company doing business in the State of New York.
- 5. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, on or about 6th day of June, 2020, defendant, WALMART INC., owned the premises known as Walmart

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

located at 85 Crooked Hill Road, County of Suffolk and State of New York, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.

- 6. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, operated the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, 7. WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, maintained the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- 8. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, managed the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, 9. WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, controlled the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- 10. Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, repaired the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, 11. WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, supervised the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- Upon information and belief, that at all the times hereinafter mentioned, defendant, 12. WALMART INC., its agents, servants, and/or employees, inspected the aforesaid premises, including the fork lift and surrounding area thereat.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

- 13. Upon information and belief that on and prior to the date of the occurrence herein, the defendant had a duty to maintain in a reasonable, safe condition the aforesaid premises; specifically the aforesaid fork lift and surrounding area thereat.
- 14. That on or about the 6th day of June, 2020, plaintiff was lawfully at the aforesaid location.
- 15. That at the aforesaid time and place, while this plaintiff was walking to grab a cart and exercising the degree of care for her own safety that a reasonably prudent person would have exercised under the same conditions, she was caused to trip and fall over a fork lift, and be violently precipitated to the ground, and was caused to sustain severe personal injuries as a result of the negligence of the defendant.
- 16. That the occurrence herein resulted from the carelessness, recklessness and negligence of the defendant, its agents, servants, and/or employees, in the ownership, operation, maintenance, management, repair, inspection, supervision and control of the aforesaid area; in allowing the fork lift to remain in a dangerous, defective condition so that plaintiff and others were put in a position of danger; in failing to maintain the said area in a safe condition for those lawfully using the same; in causing, permitting, and allowing the said area to become dangerous, and unsafe for use; in failing to correct or remove the said dangerous and unsafe condition; in failing to warn the plaintiff with respect to the said dangerous and hazardous condition, constituting a trap, nuisance and hazard; in failing to have warning signs present to warn plaintiff of the fork lift; in failing to erect barricades, or otherwise restrict use of aforesaid area to prevent a hazard, trap and nuisance from endangering the general public and, more particularly, the plaintiff herein; all as a result of which the plaintiff was caused to be and was injured.

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17. That prior to the aforementioned occurrence, defendant knew or should have

known of the aforementioned dangerous and defective condition.

That by reason of the premises aforesaid, this plaintiff was rendered sick, sore, 18.

lame, and disabled and her injuries, upon information and belief, are of a permanent nature. That

by reason thereof, she has been prevented from following her usual vocation and has been obliged

to incur expense and obligations for medical care, attention, and treatment and she is informed and

she verily believes that she will in the future be obliged to incur further expense and obligations for

medicines, medical care, attention, and treatment and continuous pain and suffering and be unable

to follow her current vocation, all to her damage in an amount which exceeds the jurisdictional

limits of all lower Courts.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands judgment against the defendant for an amount which

exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower Courts; and for the costs and disbursements incurred

herein, and such other, further and different relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Mineola, New York July 28, 2020

Yours, etc.,

SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCLE

VIENER & GROSSMAN, P. C.

JOSEPH B. VIENER

Attorney for Plaintiff

JEAN GHOLSON

100 Herricks Road

Mineola, New York 11501

(516)741-5252

FILE #: SSBW-TRIP&F-65775

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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

ATTORNEY'S VERIFICATION

JOSEPH B. VIENER, an attorney duly admitted to practice law before the Courts of the State of New York, affirms the following to be true under the penalties of perjury:

I am an attorney at SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCIK, VIENER & GROSSMAN, P. C., attorneys of record for Plaintiff, **JEAN GHOLSON**. I have read the annexed **COMPLAINT** and know the contents thereof, and the same are true to my knowledge, except those matters therein which are stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. My belief, as to those matters therein not stated upon knowledge, is based upon facts, records, and other pertinent information contained in my files.

This verification is made by me because Plaintiff is not presently in the County wherein I maintain my offices.

Dated: Mineola, New York July 28, 2020

JOSEPH B. VIENER

COUNTY CLERK 08/04/2020 09:55 AMDe 8 of 13 Pagolp #612609963/2020

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/04/2020

Index No. SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

JEAN GHOLSON,

Plaintiff,

-against-

WALMART INC.,

Defendant.

SUMMONS AND VERIFIED COMPLAINT

SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCIK, VIENER & GROSSMAN, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiff Office and Post Office Address, Telephone 100 Herricks Road Mineola, New York 11501 Bus. (516) 741-5252 Fax (516) 741-0799

TO:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

that the within is a (certified) true copy of a duly entered in the office of the clerk of the within named court on

NOTICE OF ENTRY

that an Order of which the within is a true copy will be presented

for settlement to the Hon.

one of the

judges of the within named court, at

on

at

a.m.

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 22 NYCRR 130-1.1A

Pursuant to 22 NYCRR 130-1.1a, the undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the courts of New York State, certified that, upon information and belief, and after reasonable inquiry, the contentions contained in the annexed documents are not frivolous.

Dated:

Yours, etc.,

SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCIK, VIENER & GROSSMAN, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff Office and Post Office Address, Telephone 100 Herricks Road Mineola, New York 11501 (516) 741-5252

WM 20-351 AB SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF SUFFOLK	
X JEAN GHOLSON,	Index No.: 609963/2020
Plaintiff,	
-against-	VERIFIED ANSWER
WALMART STORES EAST, LP,	
Defendant.	
The defendant, WAL-MART STORES	
O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR, answering the Verified Co	omplaint herein states upon information

AS TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

and belief:

- 1: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "1" and each and every part thereof.
- 2: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraphs marked "2" and "3" and each and every part thereof.
- 3: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "4" except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is a foreign limited partnership registered to do and doing business in the State of New York.
- 4: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "5" and each and every part thereof.
- 5: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraphs marked "6", "7", "8", "9", "10", "11" and

"12" except admits that WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP is the operator of the Walmart store located at 85 Crooked Hill Road, Commack, New York.

- 6: Defendant denies the allegation set forth in paragraph marked "13" and refers all questions of law to the trial court.
- 7: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph marked "14" and each and every part thereof.
- 8: Defendant denies the allegations set forth in paragraphs marked "15" and "16" and each and every part thereof.
- 9: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraphs marked "17" and "18" and each and every part thereof.

AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

10: The plaintiff was guilty of culpable conduct, including contributory negligence and/or assumption of risk, and should an award be made to plaintiff, same should be diminished in the proportion which the culpable conduct and/or contributory negligence and/or assumption of risk attributable to the plaintiff bears to the culpable conduct and/or negligence which caused the damages.

AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

11: In the event that plaintiff recovers judgment against this answering defendant and it is determined that plaintiff's damages was caused in whole or in part by two or more joint tortfeasors, then defendant's liability herein for non-economic loss may not exceed its equitable share of said damages in accordance with its relative culpability, as provided by Section 1601 of the CPLR.

AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

12: Plaintiff's recovery, if any shall be reduced by the amount of any collateral payments received, in accordance with CPLR Section 4545.

WHEREFORE, defendant, WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP, requests judgment dismissing the Complaint herein, together with costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: Northport, New York August 27, 2020 Yours, etc.

BRODY O'CONNOR & O'CONNOR Attorneys for Defendant

By:

PATRICIA A. O'CONNOR 7 Bayview Avenue Northport, New York 11768 (631) 261-7778 File No.: WM 20-351 AB

TO: SANDERS, SANDERS, BLOCK, WOYCIK, VIENER & GROSSMAN P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 100 Herricks Road Mineola, New York 11501 (516) 741-5252

File No.: SSBW-TRIP&F-65775

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AFFIRMATION BY ATTORNEY

The undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the Courts of the State of

New York, shows:

That affirmant is the attorney for the defendant in the within action; that affirmant

has read the foregoing Verified Answer and knows the contents thereof; that the same is true to

the affirmant's knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged on information

and belief; and that as to those matters, affirmant believes it to be true.

Affirmant further says that the reason this Verification is made by deponent and

not by the defendant is that defendant is a foreign limited partnership.

The ground of belief as to all matters not stated upon deponent's knowledge are

documents, correspondence and records maintained in your deponent's files and conversations

and conferences has with the defendant.

The undersigned affirms that the foregoing statements are true under the penalties

of perjury.

Dated: Northport, New York

August 27, 2020

PATRICIA A. O'CONNOR